

## **Floor Discussion**

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The first paper, presented by Michael Bankier of Statistics Canada, discussed a new imputation methodology for imputing numeric and qualitative variables simultaneously. Previous edit systems provided only for imputation of one or the other variable types. This new methodology utilizes a weighted minimum difference function where the weight component provides the level of importance placed on the continuum of minimum change and plausibility of imputation actions.

The second paper, presented by Frank van de Pol of Statistics Netherlands, discussed selective editing using an "OK-index" to determine records with influential errors. Also discussed was the impact of bias and sampling inaccuracy on the publication estimates and how these errors are measured under selective editing techniques.

The final paper was presented by Clancy Barrett and Francois Laflamme, both of Statistics Canada. The presenters discussed the results of the re-engineered edit and imputation process for Administrative Canadian Imports data. The discussants also provided information about the new edit system which consisted of an integration of micro, selective, and macro editing approaches.

Mark Pierzchala of NASS directed a question to Mr. Laflamme regarding capturing import data electronically at the "border" and then conduct editing at that time. Mr. Laflamme responded that undertaking this would be a good way of eliminating much of the paper, but did not know of any plans to implement a CASIC-like process for the Canadian Import Survey.

Mr. van de Pol continued the discussion suggesting that the re-engineered import data edit process seemed a three-stage editing procedure. Mr. Laflamme indicated that the new system was not really a three stage procedure but rather an integrated system.